Nuggets of News

Gold Hill Historical Society
P. O. Box 26
504 First Avenue
Gold Hill OR 97525
541-855-1182

June/July/August 1999

Newsletter for members and friends of the Gold Hill Historical Society
Established 1986
Meetings are held 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.
at the Historical Society Museum, 504 First Avenue, Gold Hill, Oregon (except for August when the Annual Picnic/Potluck is held at noon on the 3rd Sunday).
Museum hours: Wednesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Closed Holidays - Admission FREE (Donations accepted.)

TOURS AT MUSEUM

The Museum, among other reasons for its existence, is a learning center enjoyed by both young and old. Two Rogue Manor groups toured the Museum on two separate days, March 31 and again on April 7. Their cheerful studied enthusiasm was obvious during their visit while they discovered new information and artifacts previously unknown to them. They marveled at what they viewed and talked eagerly of returning on their own soon.

On April 9, a different age group--children from Gold Hill Community Pre-School brought their teacher, Lori Schoen and two of their parents to the Museum for a visit. They enjoyed a demonstration of gold panning, a view of the Museum artifacts, and a lesson on how the ore stamp milled worked when it was in the woods at the Lucky Bart Mine. They quickly and collectively decided that when the stamp mill broke rocks in the woods, the sound would have been a "Big Noise" as opposed to a "Little Noise." After punch and animal crackers on the front steps, they smiled and said an enthusiastic and polite "Thank you" to the Museum Staff, waving a cheerful good-bye as they went out the gate clutching a rock painted gold to resemble a gold nugget. After the event, the pre-schoolers made and sent us a huge thank you poster that is on display temporarily in the Museum.

Photo by Barbara Finnie

Rogue Valley Manor Tour group with Museum tour guides Marge Martin and Lyn Parker in back row on left

Photo by Cliff Finnie

Gold Hill Community Pre-School students and their teacher on the steps of the Museum with their teacher and tour guides Barbara Finnie and Joyce Wayland in the back row.

GOLD HILL PLAYERS presents

Gold Miners Rushes

The newly formed Gold Hill Players, sponsored by the Gold Hill Historical Society, will perform at The Valley of the Rogue State Park Amphitheater this summer. The two ten-minute plays were written and will be directed by Crater High School students, Casey Faubion and Sarah Engen with assistance from Cindy Tilly Faubion. The cast will be made up entirely of young people from our area. Sarah and Casey have both performed in several plays, but this project will be their first performance as directors. The general theme of the plays will cover some history of gold mining in the Gold Hill area as well as other early influences in our town. You can expect audience interaction in keeping with the style of the old-fashioned melodrama.

Gloria Wood will close these exciting evenings of summer fun with a slide show of local historical scenes and events. Bring out the entire family for what are sure to be memorable evenings of excitement and laughter! The new stage is 3/4 of a mile into the park, set in the midst of a beautiful, open amphitheater, so we advise that you bring chairs, blankets, and umbrellas for your comfort. Admission is free. Donations are gladly accepted. While you are in the park, PLEASE pay special attention to the 15 MPH speed limit and watch out for children, bikes and pedestrians.

1999 Performance Schedule

July 14 - 8:30 PM.
July 22 - 8:30 PM.
August 12 - 8:30 PM.
August 25 - 8:30 PM
September 2 (Last Performance) - 8:30 PM

Early Gold Hill Celebration - Lampman Day

(Excerpted from *The Oregonian*, June 22, 1947)

On June 21, 1947, Gold Hill's city park was the site where friends and admirers of Ben Hur Lampman, celebrated associate editor and author, gathered to honor "its most famous ex-resident." Paul Hoyt, reporter, editor and ultimately editor of *The Oregonian*, was associated with Lampman for many years and gave the principal speech that day. He stated that "Lampman was a simple man with the simplicity of Winston Churchill and Abraham Lincoln." On that day, Gold Hill experienced a parade such as Gold Hill had never before witnessed. A free salmon barbecue of Rogue River salmon followed the speaking and a dance wound up festivities.

Lampman owned and operated the *Gold Hill News* from 1912 to 1916 when he sold it to Ted Wharton's father, H. E. Wharton. Lampman divided his time between writing and fishing the Rogue River.

The crowning touch of this not-to-be-forgotten occasion was the dedication of Ben Hur Lampman Park, a strip about 200 feet wide which extended along the Rogue River where Lampman loved to fish.

In future issues of *Nuggets of News*, we will be bringing you more history of Ben Hur Lampman, his writings, and his fish stories.

Annual Meeting

Be sure to attend the Gold Hill Historical Society's Annual Meeting at noon on **August 22, 1999**. There will be the customary Blackout Bingo, food, door prizes and social time with other members. Punch, coffee and tea will be furnished as well as barbecued chicken done by none other than Ted Wharton! Bring your favorite potluck dish, a Bingo prize (wrapped), and yourself to a fun summer day under the trees at the Museum. Members are all encourage to attend and bring guests. No reservations are necessary.

Ruffles for the Raffle!
Win this Doll

This beautiful doll will be given to the lucky ticket holder at our Annual Pot Luck Picnic on August 22, 1999. Tickets are $1.00 each or six for $5.00 and are available for purchase at the Museum.

August Meeting
August 22, 1999
POT LUCK
12:00 noon

June Meeting:
June 16, 1999
6:30 p.m.

July Meeting:
July 21, 1999
6:30 p.m.

March Meeting

In attendance at the March , 1999, meeting were: Mary Bradish, Barbara and Cliff Finnie, Marge Martin, Clare Moore, Lyn Parker, Jerry and Janet Sessions, Joyce Wayland, Ted and Armela Wharton, and Gloria Wood. Basically, these same individuals regularly attend the meetings and are taking main responsibility for the care of the museum and all activities. Gold Hill Historical Society boasts 94 paid members (as of February 21, 1999). If only two or three of you would be able to attend the next meeting and subsequently take an active part in your Museum, more programs could be offered to the public. The more volunteers available, the more numerous and varied the programs are going to be that we can offer to the public.

New Computer for Museum

The new computer is up and running at the Museum and is being used for many tasks. The following software has been purchased and installed: Adobe PageMaker, PhotoShop and Illustrator; QuickBooks, Microsoft Office including Excel spreadsheet, Access database, Outlook, and Word. We are able to print digital photos directly from a digital camera using a newly purchased digital reader. (To date, the Museum does not own a digital camera but utilizes a member's camera for this purpose.)

Cliff Fininie has been training the volunteer staff and the curator in how to optimize the use of the computer for printing photographs for the artifact records. We are scanning Ted's negatives and printing photos for the artifact record file. Cliff developed new forms and a computer data base for the artifacts records and information. This data is being entered by volunteers as they have time. The photos are being stored on CD-Rom disks. Training will be provided to any additional volunteers who would like to assist and learn new skills at the same time. We could use your help!

Rock Point Pioneer Cemetery

We will be cleaning up the cemetery on **May 22 and 29, 1999.** (NOTE: LAST NEWSLETTER ERRONEOUSLY STATED INCORRECT DATES.)

As we told you in the last newsletter, the wind has blown a lot of limbs down, and the rain left pot holes that need filling.

We are trying to verify grave locations and will one day have all the sections marked. Keeping the gate locked did not work, as people destroyed the fences to get into the cemetery at night.

We need all the help we can get to keep the cemetery in good shape. Let's do our part! Bring your riding lawn mowers, gas powered weed eaters, garden tools, and knee pads. Hope to see you there!

May 22 and 29, 1999, are Cemetery Clean-Up Days so mark your calendars. There will be the usual Pot Luck at noon on the second Saturday, May 29. Bring your favorite dish and eating utensils on the last day.

CEMETERY COMMITTEE: Marge Martin, Mary Bradish, and Joyce Wayland.

Bargains!!

Something new has been added to the Museum Gift Shop: "Mini-Thrift-Shop-In-A-Trunk." New items will be added regularly. Stop by often to see what is for sale! You'll find gift shop mark-downs, postcards, children's toys, gadgets, and other miscellaneous items. All proceeds from our new "Thrift Shop" will benefit your Museum. Contributions welcome!

Newsletter

Your newsletter editor needs news early in the 3-month cycle. Please contribute often and early! Drop your news in the Newsletter envelope in the Museum office, or call us.

Next newsletter deadline is August 20 for the September, October and November issue.

Barbara Finnie, Editor
Cliff Finnie, Co-Editor

Contributors: Elaine Behrendt, Cindy Faubion & Ted Wharton
Copying and Mailing. Lyn Parker and Marge Martin

June 5 at Del Rio

A fun charity event on behalf of Southern Oregon Women's Access to Credit (SOWAC) in cooperation with the Southern Oregon Historical Society is scheduled for the Del Rio Vineyards on June 5 starting at 3 p.m. until evening. Gold Hill Historical Society volunteers will join others and dress in period costumes and contribute to telling the story of early history of Rock Point Stage Stop and Del Rio Orchard/ Vineyard. In addition to tours, train rides, a 1915 Rogue Valley movie, wine tasting, a Live and Silent Auction, a Southern Oregon Wine Country Alfresco Buffet will be served. Tickets are $50 each and will benefit SOWAC. Hurry, though, as ticket sales close on May 28. Call 541-779-3992 for more information.

What's Going On A Summary

Many exciting programs continue to be planned at the Museum. On July 8, a summer program, *A Dragon's Tale: The Chinese Influence in Southern Oregon* will be at the Museum. This program, sponsored by Southern Oregon Historical society will weave historical information about the Chinese influence in Southern Oregon with stories, crafts, demonstrations and food from the Chinese culture. Attendees will have an opportunity to make a Chinese lantern that they may take home. There may be a chance for the children to be part of a dragon's body. Come to the Museum and join in the fun.

The new computer is finding many uses every day. With the computer comes public offerings not possible before. For instance, we can quickly and efficiently print any negative in our collection through digital technology for the price of only $3.00. Before these prints had to be done in the dark room and the cost to purchase one was $5.00. (Dark room photos are still available if desired.) New recordkeeping techniques have been started and by this time next year, much data will have been entered and a quick search will answer inquiries more efficiently. (More info on the computer on Page 5.)

Now, with the mainframe of our historic stamp mill standing in place, additional reconstruction is underway rebuilding and assembling the frame works for the drive mechanism and reduction shaft assembly.

Beams are cut, mitered and mortised, holes drilled and bolts salvaged. Once all parts are ready, a set-up day will be planned early in the summer. A finished mill is anticipated by early fall according to Ted Wharton who has made this project his personal goal. Ted could use additonal help. If you want to help, give a call and volunteer!

Museum articles continue to appear in the new *Gold Hill Gazette* informing the public of Museum happenings and local history.

A Valley of the Rogue State Park program is planned for this summer with our newly-formed Museum theater group, *The Gold Hill Players* (see story on Page 2).

The garden that is planned with memorial contributions will be developed as we have the available volunteer staff.

Oral histories are being taken by Clare and Don Moore and are being transcribed by Lyn Parker.

Three of our latest volunteers, Elaine Behrendt, Kerri Gomes, and Lynne Riggs have volunteered to help us on a regular basis. Hearty thanks to each of them for being willing to assist with important Museum work! Kerri Gomes, who has volunteered at the museum in the past, has decided it's time for her to help us once again and has offered to head a Sunshine Committee. Call the Museum if you know of a member in poor health so that a card can be sent to cheer them.

Sarah Engen, Casey and Cindy Faubion have also volunteered and will be writing and directing the Summer Program in the Valley of the Rogue State Park. Cindy was a newsletter contributor with this issue also.

Every volunteer makes a big difference in how efficiently the Museum is able to operate. Lynne Riggs is now entering data in the new artifact computer program, and Elaine Behrendt has offered to work on all but one Saturday a month. She will also be working on various Museum projects.

More could be done with additional help. If you aren't an active member now, would you consider contributing one hour, two hours, three hours--whatever time you have to help your Historical Society meet its goals? Stop by or call the Museum to see how you can help.

Stumbo Artifacts

Mrs. Clair Stumbo has generously donated her deceased husband's collection of documents, letters, and photos to the Museum. The Stumbos were early Foots Creek settlers. Hundreds of their family photographs and other documents have been accessioned. When the details of recording all the items for artifact records has been completed, a display will be set up for all to enjoy.

Photo from the Clair Stumbo Collection, Gold Hill Historical Society Photo #99.9.1

Clair Stumbo (back row, 2nd from right) with others in his 8th Grade Class: Bobbie Whitman, Fred Herrin, Wilda Mayfield, Jill Martin, LaVelle Edington, Guy Desimini, Dorothy Ham, Lucille Smith, Billy Pendleton, Louise Harris, Donald Heap, Tom Henderson, Beulah Rosecrans, and Claire Stumbo.

Gold Sluicing

For any community kids of all ages who want to stop by the Museum from 10 a.m. to 12 noon on July 24, 1999, Joyce Wayland, Museum Curator, will give a demonstrate of gold sluicing and panning. If you have always wanted to see how the miners did this, here is your chance to see it up close. The public is invited at no charge to this educational and fun event. Wear your "grubbies" for this interaction activity.

Window Display

Need Old Canvas

An educational gold mining display will be set up for six months in a front window at the Southern Oregon Historical Society starting August 1, 1999. The setting will depict the inside of a gold miner's shack sometime during the early 1900's. Several historic photographs are being reproduced to tell the Gold Hill story.

We need old tattered canvas to use on the walls of the shack. If you have any to donate, we'd appreciate your getting in touch with the Museum soon. Thank you!

We have a winner!

New contest to begin in July

The contest was won by an out-of-town visitor to the Museum, Ian Blem, of Hillsboro, Oregon, by guessing within 20 rocks of the correct number. Congraulations, Ian!! Thanks to everyone who entered the contest.

You'll have ***another chance*** to guess at the Summer Programs in the Amphitheater at the Valley of the Rogue State Park. We'll have fewer nuggets but the challenge will be just as big! The prize will be the same--a gold panning kit.

Recipes from a Sams Valley Collection - Circa 1949, GHHS Accession #99.12

White Bread, Quick Method
(Makes 2 loaves)*

WITH BASIC YEAST FERMENT
2 cups (1 pint) basic yeast ferment
2 tablespoons sugar + 1-1/2 teaspoons salt
About 6 cups sifted flour
2 tablespoons shortening

In the morning take 2 cups of the lukewarm and well-mixed yeast ferment. Dissolve it in the sugar. Sift flour and salt together into mixing bowl. Blend yeast ferment with flour and add shortening, melted but not hot. Knead into a smooth, elastic dough. Let rise in cozy, warm place until doubled, then make into loaves at once if soft wheat flour is employed. If hard wheat flour is used, knead the dough down and let rise again until doubled, then make into loaves. Let loaves rise until doubled. Bake 50 to 60 minutes in a moderately hot oven. ***If four loaves of bread are to be made, use four cups or all of the basic yeast ferment, and double all other ingredients in the recipe for two loaves.**

Buttermilk Rolls (from vintage handwritten recipe)
(*Recipe author's self evaluation pencilled at top of recipe:* "Very good.")
2 cups buttermilk
1 cake fermented yeast
1/2 teaspoon soda
2 tablespoons sugar
2 teaspoons salt
4 cups flour (approximately)
2 tablespoons melted shortening

Scald buttermilk, stirring constantly. Cool to lukewarm . Add yeast. When dissolved, add sugar and salt. Add half the flour and soda. Beat until batter is smooth. Let rise 1/2 hour, approximately. Add shortening and remaining flour, stirring until dough collects in stiff ball. Turn out on a floured board and knead until smooth and elastic. Roll out 1/2-inch thick. Brush lightly with melted butter. Cut and fold over and brush top with butter. Place 1/2-inch apart on greased pan. Set in warm place and let rise until double in bulk. Bake in 375 ° to 400° oven for 20 minutes.

So, Let It Rain

But, whether the weather be cold
Or whether the weather be hot,
Whether the weather be fair,
Or whether the weather be not.
We'll weather the weather,
Whatever the weather
Whether we like it or
Whether we not.

Anonymous

Happy Father's Day

June 20, 1999

Wanted

Gold Hill Artifacts from early history of this area. Call 541-855-1182 if you know of item(s) that should be considered for accession into the Museum collections.

Also, we need old tattered brown or green canvas from cots or tents to use in our miner's cabin display (*see story above*).

Museum articles in *Gold Hill Gazette*

Since January 1999, several articles about local history and Museum activities have appeared monthly in *The Gold Hill Gazette*. *The Gold Hill Gazette* is now being published twice a month so watch for more Museum news in each upcoming issue which is an insert in the *Rogue River Press*.

Gift Ideas

Don't forget that the 1999 calendars are still for sale for $5.00 in the Museum Gift Shop. Father's Day is coming up soon and these calendars make a wonderful gift! They are designed around local area history. All proceeds from Museum Giftg Shop sales are used to benefit the Society.

The Museum Shop also has a limited supply of Gold Hill Centennial and Applegate Trail Susquecentennial Medallions availabale, ranging in price from $7.50 to $25.00 each.

Ballon gift-wrapping is once again available for only $1.50!

A reminder: Museum members now receive a 10% discount in the gift shop.

Oral Histories

Clare and Don Moore are taking oral histories of local people who have lived in this area a long time. Lyn Parker is transcribing them so that all may learn the history that these long-time local residents have to share. Often fragments of the past become the inspirations of today.

If you know of someone they should talk to, please contact the museum so that arrangements can be made to interview them.

Message from your President

So many of you have stopped by the museum to see what's new and to meet our new volunteers, including me! Keep those visits coming. Without your participation, we would quickly lose interest. Your support is badly needed to keep all the volunteers inspired and moving ahead. There is much important work to be done and everyone who is volunteering is spread very thin at the present time. Your encouragement and support is what keeps us motivated.

With more volunteers we could offer so much more to the public. I know this may sound like the proverbial "broken record" but IF you have any spare time, please come forward and volunteer. We would match your talents to a job that needs to be done. Or, you could just BE there to greet visitors. Any help at all would greatly benefit your Museum.

Barbara Finnie
President
Gold Hill Historical Society

Happy Fourth of July to all!

Gold Dust Day

"The New Frontier" is the theme for this year's Gold Dust Day on Saturday, June 12.

Rebecca's and Odd Fellows will serve a breakfast from 6:30 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. at the Gold Hill IOOF Hall. At 8:00 a.m. the Gold Dust 10K and 5K Run/Walk begins. For information on the Run/Walk, contact Peter Fish, 855-1255 or Dan Alexander, 855-2035.

The parade begins at 10:30 a.m. followed by games, activities, live entertainment, and booths in the park. For parade entry forms, contact Becky Bailey, 855-7070. For booth space, contact Cheryl Joseph, 855-5324.

Perhaps you'd like to enter a car in the 4th Annual Gold Dust Car Show which begins at 10:30 a.m. Entry is free with preregistration recommended. There will be free drawings, wall trophies, and prizes. Cars must be pre-1970 and of show quality. Contact Chris Beck at 855-7930 for information and pre-registration.

For more information, contact Chris Beck, 855-7930.

The Gold Hill Historical Society is planning to have a float in the parade as well as a booth in the park. The Museum will open immediately following the parade and will remain open until its usual closing of 4 p.m. (See story on Page 2 about an earlier 1947 Gold Hill summer celebration.)

Cider Press Restored - Mystery Parts Need Identification

Rex Parker has singularly taken on the project of restoring the wood in a recently-accessioned 1870s cider press. Two wooden rollers were accessioned as part of this press, but we are puzzled over their use. Since the cider press was originally used in Medford near a grape planting, it is suspected that this could have been an apparatus for crushing wine grapes. Does anyone else have a better explanation for these extra rollers? If you do, please let the Museum folks know. This press originally operated in Medford. When the owners sold their propety there, they moved the press to Del Rio and there it sat until the Museum acquired it this year. Watch for the cider press to be on exhibit at the Museum shortly.

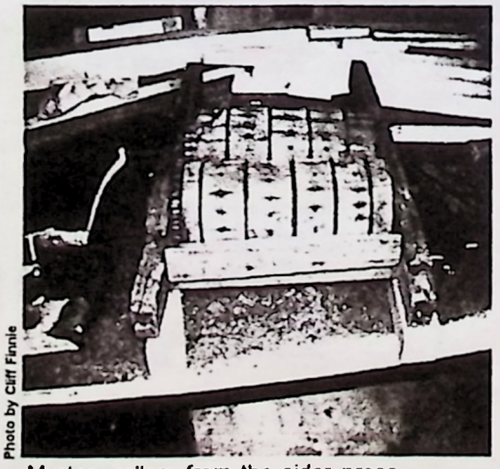


Photo by Cliff Finnie

Mystery rollers from the cider press apparatus. A nail protrudes at each of the dark spots on the four rings of the rollers.

Photo by Cliff Finnie

End piece on the "Senior Americus" cider press which will soon be on display at the Gold Hill Historical Society Museum.

CURRENT MUSEUM VOLUNTEERS

Elaine Behrendt
Mary Bradish
Sarah Engen
Cindy Faubion
Casey Faubion
Barbara Finnie
Cliff Finnie
Kerri Gomes
Marge Martin
Clare Moore
Lyn Parker
Lynne Riggs
Janet Sessions
Joyce Wayland
Ted Wharton
Gloria Woods

Thanks to everyone!!

Volunteers are necessary for the Gold Hill Historical Society to serve the community and help research for continuation of our local history. Everyone has special skills and lending those skills to the Historical Society would enrich the preservation for generations to come. If you would like to better help your community by volunteering, the Historical Society needs you!! You can set the times and dates of your service. Help is needed in researching local Indians, local mines, and pioneer families. Mining is of particular interest to many in the area and all knowledge of this would be helpful. Short stories are always of interest--in oral or written form. Come in to the museum and do your own research and learn to help others through that research. Some of the projects ongoing are mining equipment setups, sorting and storing documents and pictures, artifact labeling, recruiting members and volunteering at local schools and/or organizations, sewing costumes for living history exhibits, computer input, cemetery maintenance and grave locations, and assisting in photo lab. Your special expertise can help the Museum continue to help others. Come for a couple of hours or stay as long as you like. Museum hours are 10-4 Wednesday through Sunday each week. Contact Joyce Wayland, Curator, or Barbara Finnie, President, 541-855-1182.

Strange

Strange how much you've got to know
Before you know how little you know.

Anonymous

Gold Hill Historical Society
Membership/Renewal/Volunteer Form

Name _____

Street Address _____

Mailing Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone _____

☐ Family Membership $5.00 per year
New membership,. Welcome!

☐ Family Membership $5.00 per year
Renewal. Thank you!

☐ Contribution

☐ Yes, I would like to volunteer

Return form to:

Gold Hill Historical Society
P. O. Box 26
504 First Avenue
Gold Hill OR 97525

Board of Directors
1999

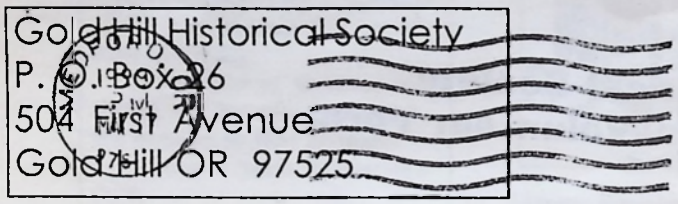
Barbara Finnie, President
Marge Martin, Vice President
Gloria Wood, Secretary
Clare Moore, Treasurer
Ted Wharton
Lyn Parker

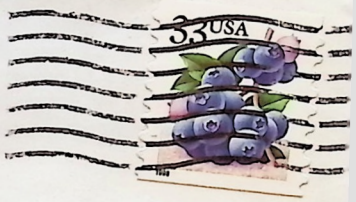
Museum Curator: Joyce Wayland

Our Purpose and Goals

The Gold Hill Historical Society's Purpose and Goals are to collect, document, and preserve the history of Gold Hill and area through:

Oral Histories
Photographs
Artifacts
Books
Interpretation





Eagle Point Historical Society
PO Box 201
Eagle Point, OR. 97524